Compilation of Public Email Communications
3-4-24 to 5-8-24

For Awareness: Benefits Packages for Potential Host Communities for Deep Geological Repositories

From: Lorraine Quinn Sandstrom
Sent: Wednesday, May 8, 2024 7:06 AM
To: Dan Stetson; Victor Cabral; Martha McNicholas; Michelle Anderson; Mike Balsamo; Katrina Foley; Garry Brown; Jim Desmond; Rob Howard; Sam Jammal; Scott Kibbey; Marni Magda; Val Macedo; Michael Parham; Ted Quinn; John Taylor; Mel Vernon; Michael Villar; Alyssa Napuri; Mark Enmeier; Kristal Jabara; John Gabbard; Mike Sappingfield; Ken Schultz
Cc: Manuel Camargo
Subject: For Awareness: Benefits Packages for Potential Host Communities for Deep Geological Repositories

Dear CEP Members and Alternates,

As you may recall, Canada's Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) has identified two potential sites to host the country's repository for spent nuclear fuel: Ignace and South Bruce. Township leaders in Ignace signed an agreement in March outlining a benefits package that includes job training, financial benefits and a Centre of Excellence. Now, a second agreement has been released for the South Bruce site.

In each municipality, voters still need to weigh in to make clear that they agree with township leaders that they would like to host the DGR. Residents of Ignace are currently working through a decision-making process and South Bruce will participate by holding a referendum on the matter in the fall.

As a next step, NWMO will release similar benefits agreements with the tribal governments in each potential host community.

Regards,
Lorraine Sandstrom
Community Affairs and Relations, Senior Specialist
Community Engagement Panel (CEP) Management and Stakeholder Engagement (DA Complex -B)
Southern California Edison, San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS)

No attachment. Direct links within text above.
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For Awareness: Interactive Tool for Audiences Wishing to Learn More About DOE's Plans to Manage Spent Nuclear Fuel

From: Lorraine Quinn Sandstrom
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2024 10:34 AM
~~~~~~

To: Dan Stetson; Victor Cabral; Martha McNicholas; Michelle Anderson; Mike Balsamo; Katrina Foley; Garry Brown; Jim Desmond; Rob Howard; Sam Jammal; Scott Kibbey; Marni Magda; Val Macedo; Michael Parham; Ted Quinn; John Taylor; Mel Vernon; Michael Villar; Alyssa Napuri; Mark Enmeier; Kristal Jabara; John Gabbard; Mike Sappingfield; Ken Schultz
Cc: Manuel Camargo
Subject: For Awareness: Interactive Tool for Audiences Wishing to Learn More About DOE's Plans to Manage Spent Nuclear Fuel

Dear CEP Members and Alternates,

I write to share this new interactive tool for audiences wishing to learn more about DOE's plans to manage spent nuclear fuel. The StoryMap link is provided below and contains excellent graphics, photos, and helpful information.

From: U.S. DOE Consent-Based Siting <ConsentBasedSiting@public.govdelivery.com>



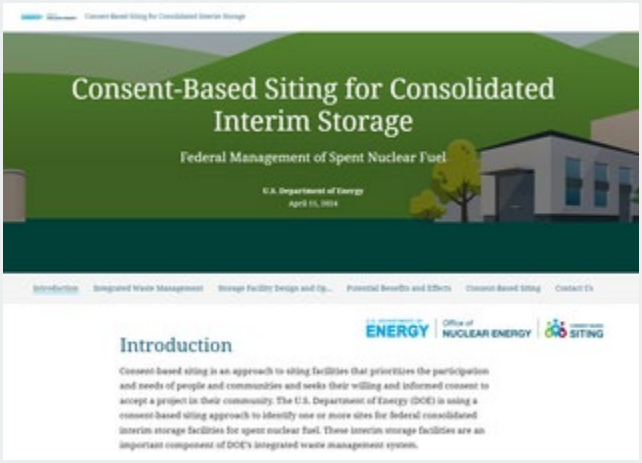
DOE Releases Interactive Tool for Audiences Wishing to Learn More About DOE's Plans to Manage Spent Nuclear Fuel

StoryMap to help communities evaluate interest and suitability in being considered as a potential host for a federal consolidated interim storage facility for commercial spent nuclear fuel.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) released an interactive StoryMap for audiences wishing to learn more about federal consolidated interim storage of commercial spent nuclear fuel.

The "Integrated Waste Management (IWM) StoryMap: Consent-Based Siting for Consolidated Interim Storage," is a free, easy-to-access tool on DOE's approach to identifying one or more locations for siting facilities to store spent nuclear fuel on an interim basis. It details DOE's concept for an integrated waste management system, federal consolidated interim storage design and operations, potential benefits and impacts, among other topics.

The StoryMap uses various mediums such as short videos, colorful illustrations, accessible data visualizations, interactive maps, and more to cover multiple facets of consent-based siting.



In addition to this tool, DOE hosts and participates in a variety of events and activities to support interaction with various audiences throughout its consent-based siting process. These activities include public meetings, workshops, site visits, community events, one-on-one interviews, and surveys.

Learn more about consent-based siting at energy.gov/consentbasedsiting and share your feedback by emailing consentbasedsiting@hq.doe.gov.

View StoryMap

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Kind Regards,
Lorraine Sandstrom
Community Affairs and Relations, Senior Specialist
Community Engagement Panel (CEP) Management and Stakeholder Engagement (DA Complex -B)
Southern California Edison, San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS)

No attachment. Direct links within text above.
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For Awareness: LA Times Article - Nuclear waste storage at Yucca Mountain could roil Nevada U.S. Senate race

From: Lorraine Quinn Sandstrom
Sent: Tuesday, April 30, 2024 12:28 PM
To: Dan Stetson; Victor Cabral; Martha McNicholas; Michelle Anderson; Mike Balsamo; Katrina Foley; Garry Brown; Jim Desmond; Rob Howard; Sam Jammal; Scott Kibbey; Marni Magda; Val Macedo; Michael Parham; Ted Quinn; John Taylor; Mel Vernon; Michael Villar; Alyssa Napuri; Mark Enmeier; Kristal Jabara; John Gabbard; Mike Sappingfield; Ken Schultz
Cc: Manuel Camargo
Subject: For Awareness: LA Times Article - Nuclear waste storage at Yucca Mountain could roil Nevada U.S. Senate race

Dear CEP Members and Alternates,

I write to share the recent article in the LA Times regarding nuclear waste storage at Yucca Mountain and the Nevada U.S. Senate race. The link and article are provided below.

https://www.latimes.com/politics/story/2024-04-30/nuclear-waste-storage-at-yucca-mountain-could-roil-nevada-u-s-senate-race Note: There is a video of Nevada U.S. Senate candidate Sam Brown's comments on Yucca Mountain that can only be accessed through the link.

POLITICS

Nuclear waste storage at Yucca Mountain could roil Nevada U.S. Senate race



A sign warns of a falling danger on the crest of Yucca Mountain during a congressional tour near Mercury, Nev., in 2018.

(John Locher / Associated Press)



By Seema Mehta
Staff WriterFollow
April 30, 2024 3 AM PT

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More than 3.5 million pounds of highly radioactive nuclear waste is buried on a coastal bluff just south of Orange County, near an idyllic beach name-checked in the Beach Boys' iconic "Surfin' U.S.A."

Spent fuel rods from the shuttered San Onofre nuclear power plant were supposed to be sent to a long-planned federal repository in Yucca Mountain, located in Nevada about 100 miles northwest of Las Vegas.

But vociferous opposition from a broad, bipartisan coalition of political, business, environmental and tribal leaders in Nevada has blocked the creation of the federal graveyard for nuclear detritus from San Onofre, as well as more than 100 other sites across the nation.

Yucca Mountain is a third rail in Nevada politics — akin to the limits on California property tax increases created by Proposition 13. That's why presidents of both parties have backed away from creating the repository in the Silver State, whose voters are increasingly critical to winning the White House.

All of which makes comments by Nevada GOP Senate candidate Sam Brown about Yucca Mountain so remarkable.

In recent years, Brown supported opening the facility, calling the failure to do so an "incredible loss of revenue for our state." Asked about the comments in the context of a Senate race that could determine which party controls the Senate after the November election, Brown did not reiterate his support but said he favors increased efforts to diversify the state's economy without sacrificing safety.

Yucca Mountain was approved by Congress more than two decades ago, but Nevada politicians of both parties have blocked funding appropriations, so only preliminary work has been completed on the repository.

Brown was asked about the future of the project two years ago.

"If we don't act soon, other states … are assessing whether or not they can essentially steal that opportunity from us," Brown said in response to a question at a 2022 Southern Hills Republican Women's luncheon at Dragon Ridge Country Club in Henderson, Nev.

"We all know that Nevada could use another great source of revenue and it sure would be a shame if we didn't monopolize on that and become a central hub of new development that we can do at Yucca," he said in a recording of the meeting obtained by The Times.

Brown's campaign did not respond when asked whether his remarks represented his current views about Yucca Mountain, but provided a statement from the Army combat veteran.

"I'm always interested in economic opportunities for Nevada that better diversify our economy. As the next Senator, I will look at every avenue available to make Nevada the most prosperous it possibly can be while continuing to protect the safety of our water supply, expand tourism revenue, and grow opportunities for all businesses," Brown said. "With energy prices doubling last year, we need leadership to explore all energy solutions for a better Nevada."



Nevada Republican U.S. Senate candidate Sam Brown speaks to reporters in 2022.

(Tom R. Smedes / Associated Press)

Brown is the front-runner in the GOP Senate primary, which will be held on June 11 and determine which Republican takes on Democratic incumbent Sen. Jacky Rosen in the fall.

A spokesperson for Rosen said the Republican's position endangers Nevadans and makes him unfit to represent the state.

"Nevada Republicans and Democrats have been fighting against storing dangerous nuclear waste at Yucca Mountain for decades, but Sam Brown agrees with the D.C. politicians in Congress who still want to turn Nevada into the nation's dumping ground for toxic waste," said spokesperson Johanna Warshaw.



BUSINESS

Feds launch search for communities willing to take nuclear waste from San Onofre and other plants

June 9, 2023

Though the creation of long-term radioactive waste storage on federal land at Yucca Mountain, near a historic nuclear testing range, was approved by Congress in 2002, efforts to build it have been blocked by Presidents Obama, Trump and Biden, in part a recognition of Nevadans' importance in the nation's politics as well as the power of Sin City's casinos.

Three out of four likely voters in the state opposed the project in a 2017 poll conducted for the Reno Gazette-Journal.

Though the state has become increasingly Democratic in recent years and voted against Trump in the last two presidential elections, Nevada is expected to be hotly contested in the November election. Trump leads Biden by 3.2 points in an average of recent polling there, according to Real Clear Politics.



BUSINESS

Trump takes Yucca Mountain off the table. What's that mean for San Onofre nuclear waste?

Feb. 7, 2020

Nevada is also among the state that will determine which party controls the Senate, where Democrats currently have a 51-49 majority. Though Rosen polls better than Biden, the contest is viewed as one of the most competitive Senate races in the nation.

Brown, in his 2022 remarks, said that "a lack of understanding" and "fear mongering" by the late former Sen. Harry Reid, a Democratic powerhouse, and others would ultimately harm the state's economy.

But many Nevada Republicans also have opposed the project, including former Govs. Brian Sandoval and Jim Gibbons, Rep. Mark Amodei, former Atty. Gen. Adam Laxalt and former Secretary of State Barbara Cegavske, as well as business groups such as the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce and the Las Vegas Convention And Visitors Authority. Some rural Nevadans have supported the creation of the repository for economic reasons.

A bipartisan vote to move forward with Yucca Mountain, long blocked by Reid, occurred in 2018 as Rosen, then a member of Congress, ran against GOP Sen. Dean Heller. Though the proposal passed the House, Heller effectively blocked funding for the creation of the repository in the Senate before Rosen beat him in the general election.

Trump and Biden have both said they would not fund the project, but Nevadans were alarmed earlier this month by pro-Yucca comments made by lawmakers during a hearing by the House Energy and Commerce Committee that were viewed as a signal that there will be renewed efforts to store nuclear waste in their state.

“Opposition is not safety related or technical,” said Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-Wash.), the committee chair. “It’s political. Opposition from states like Nevada in particular to this program has inhibited congressional appropriations and driven the executive branch to dismantle what had been an otherwise technically successful program.”

Michael Green, a history professor at the University of Nevada in Las Vegas, predicted that Brown’s comments will come back to haunt him.

“I can imagine the ads about the dangers and nuclear power accidents and the like,” Green said. “I don’t think he has done himself any favors.”

Best Regards,
Lorraine Sandstrom
Community Affairs and Relations, Senior Specialist
Community Engagement Panel (CEP) Management and Stakeholder Engagement (DA Complex -B)
Southern California Edison, San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS)

No attachment. Direct links within text above.
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For Awareness: OC Register Article - Concerns about San Onofre are real, but experts debate level of risk

From: Lorraine Quinn Sandstrom
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2024 9:22 AM
To: Dan Stetson; Victor Cabral; Martha McNicholas; Michelle Anderson; Mike Balsamo; Katrina Foley; Garry Brown; Jim Desmond; Rob Howard; Sam Jammal; Scott Kibbey; Marni Magda; Val Macedo; Michael Parham; Ted Quinn; John Taylor; Mel Vernon; Michael Villar; Alyssa Napuri; Mark Enmeier; Kristal Jabara; John Gabbard; Mike Sappingfield; Ken Schultz
Cc: Manuel Camargo
Subject: For Awareness: Concerns about San Onofre are real, but experts debate level of risk (OC Register)

Dear CEP Members and Alternates,

I write to share the recent article published in the Orange County Register on March 31, regarding the SONGS plant. The article is attached, and the link is provided below.

https://www.ocregister.com/2024/03/31/concerns-about-san-onofre-are-real-but-experts-debate-level-of-risk/

Regards,
Lorraine Sandstrom
Community Affairs and Relations, Senior Specialist
Community Engagement Panel (CEP) Management and Stakeholder Engagement (DA Complex -B)
Southern California Edison, San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS)

Attachment #1- OC Register Article – Concerns about San Onofre 03-31-24
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For Awareness: OC Register Article - San Onofre nuclear waste solution could include Generation IV power plant

From: Lorraine Quinn Sandstrom
Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2024 8:13 AM
To: Dan Stetson; Victor Cabral; Martha McNicholas; Michelle Anderson; Mike Balsamo; Katrina Foley; Garry Brown; Jim Desmond; Rob Howard; Sam Jammal; Scott Kibbey; Marni Magda; Val Macedo; Michael Parham; Ted Quinn; John Taylor; Mel Vernon; Michael Villar; Alyssa Napuri; Mark Enmeier; Kristal Jabara; John Gabbard; Mike Sappingfield; Ken Schultz
Cc: Manuel Camargo
Subject: For Awareness: OC Register Article - San Onofre nuclear waste solution could include Generation IV power plant

Dear CEP Members and Alternates,

I write to share a recent article in the OC Register regarding finding solutions to San Onofre's nuclear waste. The link and full article are provided below.
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https://www.ocregister.com/2024/04/15/san-onofre-nuclear-waste-solution-could-include-generation-iv-power-plant/

San Onofre nuclear waste solution could include Generation IV power plant
Orange County has a problem with waste from the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station.
www.ocregister.com

San Onofre nuclear waste solution could include Generation IV power plant



Dry storage of used fuel rods at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station on Thursday, December 16, 2021. (Photo by Jeff Gritchen, Orange County Register/SCNG)

By **JOHN SEILER** | Orange County Register
PUBLISHED: April 15, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. | UPDATED: April 15, 2024 at 10:15 a.m.

Orange County has a problem with waste from the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station. If the politicians work together, they can find solutions. The Register's Teri Sforza wrote a detailed article reporting the site stores 3.6 million pounds of nuclear waste in an earthquake zone. She cited dueling experts on how dangerous it remains.

The solution involves moving the waste to another location in the United States. Rep. Mike Levin's 49th District represents San Onofre. His latest Progress Report on the station projects these estimated goals:

- 2028: The station's dismantling is completed.
- 2020-30: The U.S. Department of Energy will choose sites to host one or more federal consolidated interim storage facilities. Levin has emphasized the consent of the local communities around the country is crucial.
- 2033-2038: The federal facilities start operating and San Onofre's waste begins to be transferred.
- 2045: All San Onofre waste is transferred, the local spent-fuel storage installations are dismantled and the site is returned to the Department of the Navy.

In politics, 21 years is a long time. We're still wrangling about what to do with parts of Marine Corps Air Station El Toro after its decommissioning was announced in 1993. Concern over a plume of groundwater contaminated with trichloroethylene, a refrigerant and degreaser used to clean aircraft, lasted until 2020. Actions by the Navy and the Orange County Water District led to successful remediation, reported the Voice of OC.

This is an election year, so Levin's Republican opponent Matt Gunderson says he can do better. It was a close election in 2022, with Levin beating Brian Maryott, 52.6% to 47.4%. The national parties again will be pouring money into each side.

"I think the biggest issue about the nuclear waste is prioritization," Gunderson told me. "Nuclear waste is not a partisan issue. It's geographic." He said there are 76 waste sites in 34 states. And those sites don't have the problem of earthquakes.

"To date, my opponent has no comprehensive plan to address nuclear waste and has no record of leadership on the issue," Levin replied. He said removing the waste has been one of his top priorities since he came to Congress. And he has worked with members of Congress from across the political spectrum with similar problems from around the country, as well as local Republican Reps. Darrell Issa, Michelle Steel and Young Kim.

The voters will decide which candidate represents them Nov. 5. But with bipartisan support for a solution, taking care of the waste should be achievable.

Another idea I would like to advance is using the site for a new plant of what's called Generation IV nuclear power. The site already is designed to hook into Southern California's electrical grid. And California needs reliable energy.

There are several different Generation IV designs being developed. But the advantages include they "are more sustainable, with lower waste production and the ability to use nuclear waste as fuel," wrote Robert Rapier, a chemical engineer, in Forbes. Such a plant then could use some of the existing waste on the site.

Last December the first such plant went into operation in Shanghai, China. Putting such a plant at San Onofre also would help America catch up with this exciting new technology.

The 2020 Democratic Party Platform for the first time endorsed "nuclear and advanced nuclear" power, along with other means to eliminate all carbon-using plants by 2035. "It's something I'd be open to," Gunderson said, favoring an "all of the above approach to energy in America."

When El Toro's decommissioning first was discussed, people scoffed when our Editorial Board recommended the Department of the Navy privatize it. But that's just what happened. The same could be done with San Onofre to produce the energy of the future.

John Seiler is on the SCNG Editorial Board and blogs at: johnseiler.blogspot.com

Regards,
Lorraine Sandstrom
Community Affairs and Relations, Senior Specialist
Community Engagement Panel (CEP) Management and Stakeholder Engagement (DA Complex -B)
Southern California Edison, San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS)

No attachment. Direct links within text above.
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For Awareness: Wheeler North Reef Article in the San Diego Union Tribune

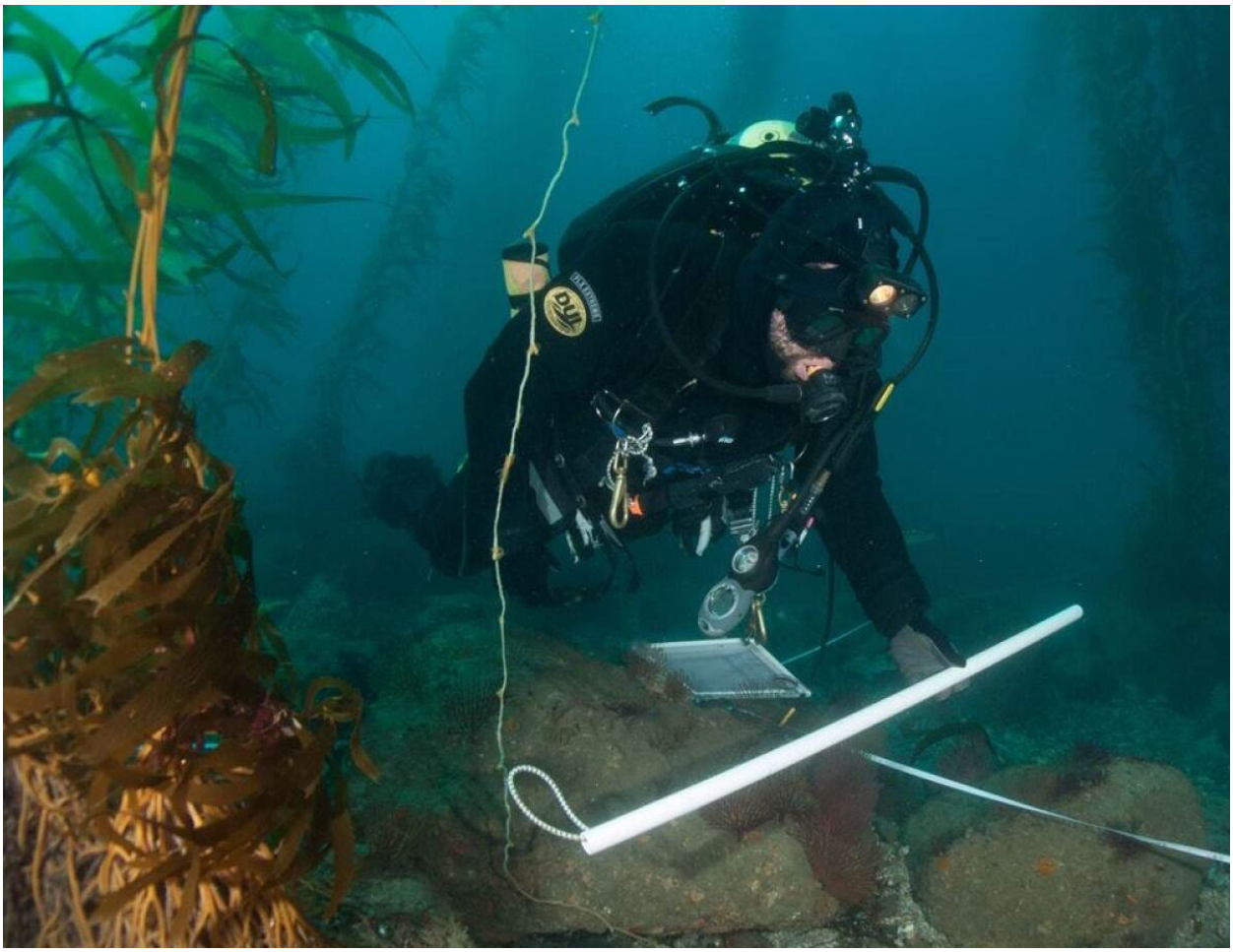
From: Lorraine Quinn Sandstrom
Sent: Monday, March 25, 2024 4:41 PM
To: Dan Stetson; Victor Cabral; Martha McNicholas; Michelle Anderson; Mike Balsamo; Katrina Foley; Garry Brown; Jim Desmond; Rob Howard; Sam Jammal; Scott Kibbey; Marni Magda; Val Macedo; Michael Parham; Ted Quinn; John Taylor; Mel Vernon; Michael Villar; Alyssa Napuri; Mark Enmeier; Kristal Jabara; John Gabbard; Mike Sappingfield; Ken Schultz
Cc: Manuel Camargo
Subject: For Awareness: Wheeler North Reef Article in the San Diego Union-Tribune

Dear CEP Members and Alternates,

I write to share the recent article in the San Diego Union-Tribune regarding the SCE Wheeler North Reef mitigation project. The link and article are provided below.
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https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/communities/north-county/story/2024-03-23/state-to-scale-back-monitoring-of-songs-artificial-reef

It took 30 years, but world's largest artificial reef built near San Diego nuclear power plant is finally thriving



A diver studies the production of the Wheeler North Reef, a mitigation project for the San Onofre Nuclear Generation Station. (Photo by Debbie Karimoto for Southern California Edison)

Fish and kelp production meet targets initially ordered by Coastal Commission in 1991 to offset damage from San Onofre

BY PHIL DIEHL

MARCH 23, 2024 12 PM PT

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An artificial reef built to offset marine life killed by the seawater cooling system at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station is finally doing its job, now that the power plant has been shut down for more than a decade.

The reef is essentially an anchor for giant kelp, which grows tall and thick to create the forests of the sea. A form of brown algae, the kelp reaches from the sea floor to the surface, creating a shady tower of shelter for all kinds of fish, spiny lobsters, sea otters, sea lions, sometimes whales and even birds.

Kelp forests provide a habitat for important commercial species of fish such as black rockfish and kelp bass. The slightly slimy ocean vegetable also is used to make a number of human products including shampoo, toothpaste, pharmaceuticals and food.

Scientists knew early on that the nuclear power plant's cooling system would stir up the ocean and degrade nearby kelp beds. They also knew it would vacuum up small fish. However, it took them years of study and collaboration to determine the full effects, design a plan to compensate for that loss, and tailor the plan for the desired results.

The Wheeler North Reef project met its required performance standards for things such as kelp growth and fish production for the first time during the past three years, according to the California Coastal Commission. Now the reef just needs to keep up the good work for an additional 27 years.

The nuclear power plant, often called SONGS, shut down in 2013 after defects were found in its replacement steam generators. The commission requires the plant's operator, Southern California Edison, to assure that the reef continues its contributions to sea life for as long as the plant operated, a total of 32 years.

"It's great to see this work moving forward ... to meet these restoration goals within these habitats," said Commissioner Justin Cummings at this month's Coastal Commission meeting.

The reef is named for Wheeler J. North, a marine biologist at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography and the California Institute of Technology. North, who died in 2002, was noted for his studies of California's coastal kelp forests.

His namesake reef is north of the power plant, a half-mile offshore and from 38 feet to 50 feet deep, extending 2.5 miles from San Mateo Point to the San Clemente Pier. It's built entirely of rock mined from a quarry and pushed off a barge into the ocean.

As a result of the reef's recent success, this month the commission unanimously approved a program to reduce monitoring, which will save the utility time and money. Instead of monitoring a total of 233 locations across the reef, the utility will be required to check only 166 locations beginning this year.

"A lot of time and effort went into determining what the reduction would look like," said Commission Executive Director Kate Huckelbridge. "Time and cost were factors ... but also that we would still have confidence in the results."

A representative of the Surfrider Foundation said that perhaps it is too soon to scale back oversight.

"This reef failed to meet performance standards for over 10 years," said Mandy Sackett, senior California policy manager for the nonprofit Surfrider Foundation.

"As of 2018, it had never met the standing fish stock requirement, despite the plant being in operation for decades," she said.

"We are grateful to see that the recent reef expansion has significantly increased the amount of times that the reef has met performance requirements, yet we feel strongly that the decades of insufficient performance would indicate a need for continued monitoring at the original frequency, at least in regard to fish stock assessments," Sackett said.

Commission officials said they are confident that the reduced monitoring will be adequate and that it will be returned to former levels if any problems are found.

"There is a lot of confidence that the reduced monitoring is going to be adequate to meet the permit conditions," said Dan Reed, a research biologist at the University of California Santa Barbara's Marine Research Institute.

UC Santa Barbara's Marine Research Institute is employed as the reef's independent observer by the Coastal Commission with funding from Edison. Reed has been working on the project since 1993.

Construction of the reef was required by the California Coastal Commission in 1991 to offset the power plant's effects on the marine environment. The commission also mandated the installation of additional barriers on the plant's cooling system to reduce the amount of fish killed by the plant's cooling system and the restoration of 150 acres of Southern California wetlands.

Scientists found that as much as 65 tons of small fish and other sea life were killed every year when they were pulled into the cooling system's 18-foot-wide underwater intakes. The plant used 2.4 billion gallons of seawater daily to cool its steam generators.

Also, when the warm water was returned to the ocean, even though it exited through many holes in a long outlet pipe, the resulting current stirred up sediment and clouded the water. The silt covered and killed marine plants and bottom-dwelling creatures.

In its heyday, San Onofre produced electricity consumed across Southern California, including 20 percent of the juice used by San Diego Gas & Electric Co. customers.

SDG&E ratepayers also took on a 20 percent share of the costs of building the power plant, its mitigation projects including the reef and the restoration of the San Dieguito Lagoon in Del Mar, and now the ongoing demolition of the defunct power plant.

Another ongoing cost to ratepayers and taxpayers is the expense of storing spent nuclear fuel at San Onofre. All of the fuel used since the 1980s remains on the site, packed into dry casks and parked at the edge of the ocean.



The San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station viewed from San Onofre State Beach, California on Thursday, October 17, 2019. (Hayne Palmour IV/The San Diego Union-Tribune)

Initially, the Coastal Commission required a 150-acre reef to be built of low-lying boulders in the ocean north of the power plant near San Clemente.

First, plant operator Southern California Edison built a 23-acre experimental reef and monitored it for five years, Then, based on the results obtained from the experimental reef, Edison completed an additional 152 acres of reef in 2008.

However, the larger reef failed to produce the expected amount of fish, based on estimates of fish populations before the plant was built and compared to two similar natural reefs nearby. As a result, the commission required Edison to build an additional 193 acres, creating what Edison and the State Lands Commission say at a total of 373 acres in all is the largest artificial reef in the world.

Completion of the reef expansion in 2021 finally brought the thriving seaweed beds and fish families that the commission had been seeking for 30 years.

Divers collect data from specific locations, known as transects, to monitor the reef's production. That data is compared to data for two natural reefs nearby in the region, but outside the influence of the power plant.

Each transect measures 3 meters wide, 15 meters long, and 1.5 meters up from the bottom. Initially, the transects were marked with cables anchored into the rock, but today divers use GPS coordinates to find them.

"We dive a lot," said Reed, of the Marine Research Institute, in a recent telephone interview.

Two boats with six to eight divers visit the reef for about four days a week from the end of May through the end of October every year, he said.

"We basically just count fish and kelp, for the most part," he said. However, some of the information needed requires the divers to collect the fish, mainly samples of five key species, and take them to a lab to be autopsied.

Studies of the samples' guts, gonads and eggs help determine how much the fish eat and reproduce. A close look at their ears determines age.

"The growth rate can be seen in ear rings, which add a layer of bone each year, much like tree rings," Reed said.

With the information collected the past three years, along with the previous cumulative results, the reef has met its production standards for a total of five years, according to the commission. Now it needs 27 additional years of continued satisfactory marine life production to meet the commission's requirement.

After the results are achieved, the reef probably will remain in place, Reed said. No further monitoring will be required under Edison's permit from the commission.

"To me, it's a success," he said. "We get giant seabass through there ... weighing 400 to 500 pounds, white sharks. It's a functioning reef."

The area is completely open to the public, he said. During lobster season, it's one of the most popular spots for lobster fishing along the Southern California coast.

Well beneath the waves, the reef is only affected by the underwater tidal surge and currents. The rocks were placed in an area of relatively shallow sand supported by a hard substrate, so the reef is unlikely to sink into the ocean bottom. Sometimes ocean currents cover small areas with sand, but they also uncover other areas.

Edison does a sonar survey every five years to measure the actual coverage of the reef, Reed said.

"It's really about what it was when we put it in," he said. "It hasn't changed much at all."

The revised monitoring program should significantly reduce the time needed for diving and lab work, he said. The team will continue to report the reef's status annually to the commission.

Regards,
Lorraine Sandstrom
Community Affairs and Relations, Senior Specialist
Community Engagement Panel (CEP) Management and Stakeholder Engagement (DA Complex -B)
Southern California Edison, San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS)

No attachment. Direct links within text above.
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For Awareness: Spent Fuel Solutions Email Update for CEP Members and Alternates

From: Lorraine Quinn Sandstrom
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 11:05 AM
To: Dan Stetson; Victor Cabral; Martha McNicholas; Michelle Anderson; Mike Balsamo; Katrina Foley; Garry Brown; Jim Desmond; Rob Howard; Sam Jammal; Scott Kibbey; Marni Magda; Val Macedo; Michael Parham; Ted Quinn; John Taylor; Mel Vernon; Michael Villar; Alyssa Napuri; Mark Enmeier; Kristal Jabara; John Gabbard; Mike Sappingfield; Ken Schultz
Cc: Manuel Camargo
Subject: For Awareness: Spent Fuel Solutions Coalition Email Update for CEP Members and Alternates

Dear CEP Members and Alternates,

I write to share the Spent Fuel Coalition (SFS) update (attached) by co-chairs Supervisor Jim Desmond and Supervisor Katrina Foley. Recall we did not include a SFS coalition update during the 1Q CEP meeting on March 7, due to the comprehensive environmental and dismantlement updates.
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Regards,
Lorraine Sandstrom
Community Affairs and Relations, Senior Specialist
Community Engagement Panel (CEP) Management and Stakeholder Engagement (DA Complex -B)
Southern California Edison, San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS)

Attachment #2 – Spent Fuel Solutions Update March 2024
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For Awareness: OC Register Article - King tides, ground water rise: Threats to nuclear waste at San Onofre?

From: Lorraine Quinn Sandstrom
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2024 3:41 PM
To: Dan Stetson; Victor Cabral; Martha McNicholas; Michelle Anderson; Mike Balsamo; Katrina Foley; Garry Brown; Jim Desmond; Rob Howard; Sam Jammal; Scott Kibbey; Marni Magda; Val Macedo; Michael Parham; Ted Quinn; John Taylor; Mel Vernon; Michael Villar; Alyssa Napuri; Mark Enmeier; Kristal Jabara; John Gabbard; Mike Sappingfield; Ken Schultz
Cc: Manuel Camargo
Subject: For Awareness: OC Register Article: King tides, groundwater rise: Threats to nuclear waste at San Onofre?

Dear CEP Members and Alternates,

I write to share a recent article by Teri Sforza (OC Register) following our March 7 CEP meeting. The article is quite comprehensive and includes graphs, diagrams, and photos from our presentation.

A pdf of the article is attached as the link requires a subscription.

Best regards,
Lorraine Sandstrom
Community Affairs and Relations, Senior Specialist
Community Engagement Panel (CEP) Management and Stakeholder Engagement (DA Complex -B)
Southern California Edison, San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS)

Attachment #3 – King tides, groundwater rise: Threats to nuclear waste at San Onofre?
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FYI: Non-cited NRC Violation

From: Manuel Camargo
Sent: Monday, March 4, 2024 8:25 AM
To: Michelle Anderson; Mike Balsamo; Mark Enmeier; Jim Desmond; Kristal Jabara; Supervisor Foley; Alyssa Napuri; Garry Brown; Rob Howard; Sam Jammal; Scott Kibbey; Val Macedo; Marni Magda; Ted Quinn; Mark Riddlebarger; Mike Sappingfield; Ken Schultz; John Taylor; Captain Mel Vernon; Michael

Villar; Adam Tallabas; Victor Cabral; Martha McNicholas; Daniel T. Stetson; Michael Parham
Cc: Vincent J Bilovsky; Fred M Bailly; Lorraine Quinn Sandstrom; Mark E Morgan; Jason Janke
Subject: FYI: Non-cited NRC Violation

Good morning CEP Members,

I write to make you aware that SCE received what is called a Level IV Non-cited Violation from the NRC due to a radiation protection worker entering a locked high radiation area in the Containment Building without being properly logged in to the area. The matter was identified during a routine NRC inspection in January.

The worker inadvertently re-entered a high radiation area without proper authorization. Fortunately, the worker followed all proper guidance for safety and procedures for keeping dose “as low as reasonably achievable” while in the area, including being within line of sight of the radiation protection technician. The worker did not receive a dose that exceeded allowable limits.

This was a regrettable administrative error. The event was self-identified and has been entered into our Corrective Action Program for evaluation and resolution to prevent re-occurrence and strengthen our focus on safety.

Level IV Non-cited Violations are considered to have a very low safety significance and represent the lowest level of violation issued by the NRC. The SCE team reviewed the NRC finding with our decommissioning contractor and workers and we remain committed to, in our oversight role, ensure adherence to all procedures.

Sincerely,

Manuel

Manuel C. Camargo Jr.
Principal Manager, Strategic Planning
Southern California Edison | SONGS Decommissioning

No attachment. Direct links within text above.
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